January 15, 2021

Welcome to the Weekly Update for the COVID-19 Technology Response System.

The Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) offers a comprehensive and interoperable suite of software to empower public health agencies and give them all the tools they need to respond to COVID-19.

Each week we will provide information about new features, resources, upcoming releases, and other important information about the three tools that make up the Technology Response System: Electronic COVID-19 Case Reporting, EpiTrax and MO ACTS.

Check out the intranet sites here:

- Electronic COVID-19 Case Reporting
- EpiTrax
- MO ACTS

Question of the Week:

Why are cases assigned to our county with state status as pending when there are no labs to investigate?

These most often occur when case reports are received through the electronic case reporting (CD-1) portal and contain no laboratory test results. These cases are entered into EpiTrax, but the Laboratory tab is left blank and the state case status is set to "Pending". Adding pending cases to EpiTrax allows LPHAs to start follow-up, but does not get included in total case counts, which are based on confirmed cases. If/when a test result is received for these pending cases, it will be added to the record.

It is rare for a provider to use the portal to report negative results, if you have a question about what has been reported, you may reach out to the reporter to clarify. However, if you see a number of "Pending" entries/CD-1 reports from a certain facility without seeing any lab results entered into EpiTrax, please let DHSS know the facility name, and we will follow up with the provider to clarify reporting requirements.

In addition, the CD-1 PDF attachment in the "Notes" tab in EpiTrax may contain additional information that is helpful. Some reporters include lab results in free text sections of this form while leaving the lab results section blank.

COVID 19 Technology Seminar January Topics:

Join us each Thursday in January to learn more about specific topics related to EpiTrax and MOACTS functionality and processes. You can find login information for each of these seminars on the Training Calendar found on the intranet sites.

January 21 – User Round Table
January 28 – Positive Patient Feature in MOACTS

The link to previous seminar recordings and Powerpoint presentations can be found on the EpiTrax and MO ACTS websites under "Quick Reference and Information Seminar Guides".

January 7 – COVID 19 death certification – Recording/Slides available
January 14 – Using the Events Tab in EpiTrax – Recording/Slides available
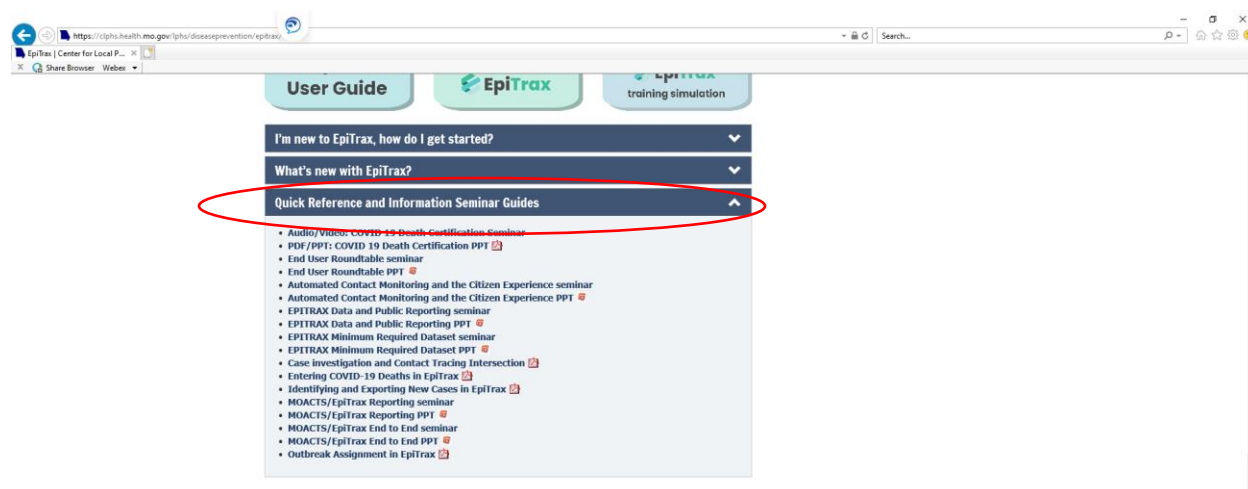
MO ACTS, V9.0 Release

Launching on 1/18, MO ACTS users will notice some new features to enhance the user experience. Most noticeably, when contacts return calls they will be greeted by human voices with clear guidance on how to be connected to the appropriate agency. Another, much anticipated, enhancement includes the positive patient monitoring feature. While not complete, this release of MO ACTS includes the infrastructure that will allow patients with a positive COVID-19 lab to complete independent mobile symptom monitoring. Look for the all-important EpiTrax sync in coming weeks!

State Holiday- 1/18/2021- Impacted Operations

Some DHSS activities related to EpiTrax will be discontinued on Monday, 1/18. We do not expect a large impact to users but wanted to share the following information. EpiTrax data will still be ingested, but users should expect a slightly lower-than-normal volume of cases because manual data entry processes will not occur. Additionally, DHSS staff will not complete normal QA processes until Tuesday, but the number of records impacted should be small.

The EpiTrax/MO ACTS HelpDesk will be closed from 5pm on 1/15 until 8am on 1/19. Please continue to submit any questions to epitrax@health.mo.gov and they will be addressed upon reopening. Thanks!

EpiTrax/MO ACTS Help Desk

EpiTrax@health.mo.gov   ●   (573) 526-9533   ●   MOACTS@health.mo.gov